MINUTES OF THE TAC MEETING OF THE
WOOD RIVER WATERSHED ADVISORY GROUP
TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2003
CAREY, ID

Chairman Daryle James called the meeting to order with the following in attendance: Carol Blackburn, Roger Parker, Bob Simpson, Maureen Meagher, Lee Naylor, Jo Lowe, Chuck Pentzer, Lynn Harmon, DEQ representative Jennifer Claire and Secretary Dana Sturgeon.

Jennifer presented a slide presentation on the Little Wood River Subbasin, dated July 9, 2003. The slides included graphs, pictures and other information. The first slide showed the Little Wood River Subbasin 1998 303(d) Listed Waterbodies.

The following areas in the slides were covered: Sediment – TSS, % fines and Turbidity
Nutrients – TP and TNOX
Aquatic Life – pH, SpC, DO and NH3
Recreation – E.coli
Temperature graphs

MULDOON CREEK:

Listed Segment - Mouth to South Fork
- Mouth to Headwaters

Pollutants Listed For - Unknown
- Temperature

Existing Uses - Cold Water Aquatic Life
- Salmonid Spawning
- Secondary Contact Recreation

No exceedance for sediments, nutrients, aquatic life or recreation.

Muldoon conclusions: Water chemistry data within standards, biological data indicates water body is fully supporting beneficial uses, temperature data does not meet standards, however creek is fully supporting salmonid spawning, delist Muldoon Creek.

LOVING CREEK:

Listed Segment – Mouth to Headwaters
Pollutants Listed for – Unknown
Existing uses – Cold Water Aquatic Life
- Salmonid Spawning
- Primary Contact Recreation

One (1) exceedance for sediment in % fines, six (6) exceedance for TNOX in nutrients, one (1) exceedance for NH3 in Aquatic Life and no exceedance in recreation.

Loving Creek conclusions: Bed load sediment and nitrates are elevated, but to be expected on spring fed system. Nitrates are elevated, but to be expected on spring fed system. Remainder of water chemistry is meeting standards. Biological data indicates beneficial uses are impaired, however, spring fed system does not fit WBAG II criteria. Temperature for salmonid spawning is high, however, salmonid spawning is occurring, so that beneficial use does not appear to be impacted. Delist Loving Creek and reevaluate biological data when protocol for spring fed system is established.

DRY CREEK:

Listed Segment – Mouth to Headwaters
Pollutants Listed For – Bacteria
- Dissolved Oxygen
- Nutrients
- Sediment
- Flow Alteration

Existing Uses – Cold Water Aquatic Life
- Secondary Contact Recreation

One (1) exceedance for sediment - % fines, no exceedance for nutrients, one (1) exceedance for aquatic life in DO and no exceedance in recreation. Dry Creek hydrograph shows flow during months of May till the first part of August, which reflects irrigation flows.

Dry Creek conclusions: Dry Creek will remain on the list for flow alteration. Remain listed for sediment (bed load). Remaining water chemistry parameters meet standards. Delist Dry Creek except for flow alteration and sediment. Gather data on upper section.

FISH CREEK SEGMENT 1:

Listed Segment – Headwaters to Reservoir
Pollutants Listed For – Bacteria
- Dissolved Oxygen
- Nutrients
- Flow Alteration

Existing Uses – Cold Water Aquatic Life
- Salmonid Spawning
- Secondary Contact Recreation

One (1) exceedance for TSS and three (3) exceedance for % fines for sediment. Three (3) exceedance for TP and TNOX for nutrients. No exceedance for aquatic life and one (1) exceedance for E.coli for recreation.

Fish Creek #1 conclusions: Biological data indicates Fish Creek above the reservoir is fully supporting beneficial uses. Bed load sediment, temperature and nutrients are slightly elevated but beneficial uses are met. Delist this segment for dissolved oxygen, nutrients, sediments and flow alteration. Remain listed for bacteria and complete a bacteria TMDL.

Those in attendance felt that flow alteration should be listed.

FISH CREEK SEGMENT 2:

Two (2) exceedance for % fines for sediment. Ten (10) exceedance for TP and three (3) exceedance for nutrients. (Jennifer said that she felt more data needed to be collected). No exceedance for aquatic life or recreation.

Fish Creek #2 conclusions: Nutrients are very elevated in the segment, possibly background – need to collect more data. Bed load sediment is slightly elevated. Temperature data is lacking. Bacteria meets secondary contact standards. Remaining water chemistry meets standard. Delist for nutrients (possibly), dissolved oxygen and bacteria. Remain listed for sediment and flow alteration. Complete sediment TMDL.

LITTLE WOOD RIVER SEGMENT 1:

Listed Segment – Not Listed
Pollutants Listed For – Not Listed
Designated Uses – Cold Water Aquatic Life
- Salmonid Spawning
- Primary Contact Recreation

No exceedance for sediment, nutrients, aquatic life or recreation.

Little Wood River #1 conclusions: Water chemistry data very good. Biological data indicates beneficial uses are not fully supporting. Temperature data elevated. List for temperature. Complete temperature TMDL.

LITTLE WOOD RIVER SEGMENT 2:

Listed Segment – Not Listed (Reservoir to Diversion)
Pollutants listed for – Not Listed
Designated uses – Cold Water Aquatic Life
- Salmonid Spawning
- Primary Contact Recreation

No exceedance for sediment. Five (5) exceedance for TP and one (1) exceedance for TNOX for nutrients. No exceedance for aquatic life and only one (1) exceedance for recreation.

Little Wood River #2 conclusions: This segment has never been bioassessed through the BURP process. Water chemistry data is meeting standards. Collection biological data in near future.

LITTLE WOOD RIVER SEGMENT 3:

Listed Segment – East Canal Diversion to Silver Creek
Pollutants Listed for – Nutrients
- Sediment
- Temperature

Designated uses – Cold Water Aquatic Life
- Salmonid Spawning
- Primary Contact Recreation

No exceedance for sediment. There were four (4) exceedance for TP and fourteen (14) exceedance for TNOX for nutrients. Two (2) exceedance for DO for aquatic life and no readings for E.coli for recreation.

Little Wood River #3 conclusions: Data is historical. This segment is highly flow altered. This segment has been decreed a dry stream. Delist for nutrient, sediment and temperature.

It was felt it should stay listed for flow alterations.

LITTLE WOOD RIVER SEGMENT 4:

Listed Segment – Silver Creek to Richfield Town
Pollutants Listed For – Nutrient
- Sediment
- Temperature

Designated Uses – Salmonid Spawning

Listed Segment – Richfield Town to Big Wood River
Pollutants Listed For –Bacteria
- Dissolved Oxygen
- Flow Alteration

Designated Uses – Cold Water Aquatic Life
- Primary Contact Recreation

Three (3) exceedance for % fines and three (3) exceedance for turbidity for sediment. Four (4) exceedance for TP and six (6) exceedance for TNOX for nutrients. Phosphorous and nitrate readings were taken at both sites and registered separately on a graph. Three (3) exceedance for pH, two (2) exceedance for SpC and no exceedance for DO & NH3 for aquatic life. No exceedance for E.coli in Recreation. There were hydrographs depicting both current and historical data.

Little Wood River #4 conclusions: Nutrients are elevated. Bed load sediment is elevated. Temperature is elevated. Remaining water chemistry parameters meet standards. Delist for dissolved oxygen. Complete temperature, bedload sediment and temperature TMDL. Remain listed for flow alteration.

The next meeting will be in Fairfield at 7:30 P.M. on September 23rd at the Sawtooth Forest Service Office.

October's TAC meeting will be held at 7:00 P.M. on the 28th in Carey. Note the change in time for the winter meetings.